

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A synthetic monomeric, cyclic B-chain peptide of a relaxin superfamily member protein which binds to a biological target of the relaxin superfamily protein, and modulates an activity of the biological target, wherein the relaxin superfamily protein is selected from relaxin 1, relaxin 2, relaxin 3, INSL3, INSL4, INSL5 and INSL6, which **relaxin superfamily protein corresponds to is a member selected from the group consisting** of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, **and** 10, respectively, the biological target being selected from insulin receptors, IGFR-I, IGFR-II, LGR7 and LGR8 and wherein the cyclic peptide has an intrapeptide cyclization modification to produce a cross-link between a first amino acid within a range of amino acid positions 2 and 8 and a second amino acid within a range of positions 21 and 26 of each of said peptide sequences, **wherein the said first and said second amino acid residues are separated with an alpha-helix or beta-strand carbon separation distance of less than six angstroms**, wherein the cross-link conformationally constrains the peptide, and wherein said intrapeptide cyclization is via the formation of a covalent bond between the side chains of said first and second amino acids or a disulfide bond between two cysteine residues, wherein said two cysteine residues are substituted for said first and said second amino acids, or a thioether bond between a substituted cysteine residue at said first or said second amino acid and a halogenated amino acid residue at the other position, either directly or via a spacer group.

2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is an INSL3 B-chain modified from a sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7.

4. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 3, wherein the INSL3 peptide is constrained by a cross-link between a first amino acid within a range of positions 2 and 8 and a second amino acid within a range of positions 21 and 26 of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7.

5.-6. (canceled)

7. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1, which is a relaxin peptide modified from a relaxin-1, relaxin-2, or relaxin-3 B-chain sequence set forth in SEQ ID NOs: 1, 2 and 3, respectively.

8. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 7, wherein the relaxin peptide is constrained by a cross-link between a first amino acid within a range of positions 2 and 8 and a second amino acid within a range of positions 21 and 26 of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.

9. (canceled)

10. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein the first and/or second amino acids are substituted with alternative amino acids suitable for cross-linking.

11. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 10 wherein at least one of the alternative amino acids is a cysteine residue.

12. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 11 wherein both of the alternative amino acid residues are cysteine residues.

13. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 12 wherein the peptide is cross-linked by oxidizing the cysteine residues to form a disulfide bond between the cysteine residues.

14. (withdrawn) A peptide according to claim 1, wherein one or more amino acids within the INSL or relaxin peptide sequence, other than the cross-linked first and second amino acids, is substituted to modify one or more biological activities of the peptide.

15. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1 wherein the biological target of the peptide is LGR7 and/or LGR8.

16. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 15, wherein activity of the biological target is initiated, up-regulated, down-regulated or otherwise blocked.

17. (withdrawn) The peptide of claim 1, wherein the peptide is conjugated to an A-chain of a relaxin superfamily protein.

18. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 17, wherein the A-chain of the relaxin superfamily protein is derived from the relaxin superfamily protein from which the B chain peptide is derived.

19. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1, wherein the peptide is conjugated to a reporter group.

20. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 19, wherein the reporter group is a radiolabel.

21. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 19, wherein the reporter group is a fluorescent label.

22. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 19, wherein the reporter group is an enzyme.

23. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 19, wherein the reporter group is a carrier.

24.-31. (canceled)

32. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition including one or more of the peptides as claimed in claim 1, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

33. (original) The pharmaceutical compositions according to claim 32, further comprising at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

34.-49 (canceled)

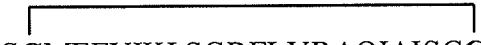
50. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1, with the following sequence and structure:

TPCMREKLSGHFVRALVRVSGGPCWS.

51. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1, with the following sequence and structure:

TPCMREKLSGRHFVRALVRVSGGPCWS.

52. (withdrawn) The peptide according to claim 1, with the following sequence and structure:


SCMEEVIKLSGRELVRAQIAISGCS.

53. (New) The synthetic peptide consisting of:


TPCMREKLSGHFVRALVRVSGGPCWS

54. (New) The synthetic peptide consisting of:


TPCMREKLSGRHFVRALVRVSGGPCWS